



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

their needle, while the latter read the newspaper or smoke cigars. Each bath having a little passing bowl or table, holding, according to the taste of the individual, a book, a snuff-box, a newspaper, or a piece of needle-

work, &c. The same mode of passing the time while in the water was formerly practised by the bathers at Bath, and has been humorously described by Defoe.



DISTANT VIEW OF CARLOW TO THE NORTH.

This town is seated on the east bank of the river Barrow, thirty-nine miles from Dublin; its ancient name was Catherlough, i. e. The City on the Lake, from its proximity to a large lake or pond which formerly existed here.

It is not my intention to trace this town from its origin, through its gradual rise and progress, nor even those various epochs and events which are entwined with and enliven its local history, but merely to present a slight notice or abstract of its present statistics.

The town of Carlow is the emporium of the trade and business of this and the adjoining counties, chiefly on account of its advantageous and rapid water communication with the sea-port towns of Ross and Waterford, and also with Dublin, a passage which occupies but two or three days.

Carlow cannot be said to possess any particular staple trade or manufacture. The inhabitants are engaged in the ordinary routine of town business, in the various branches of industrious occupation; but the corn and butter trades are very extensively carried on—the county of Carlow being richly productive of these articles, which always find here a ready market.

But I wish particularly to mention its butter trade—the quality of which is of the finest description—superior to any in Ireland, and giving precedence to the Dutch butter alone in the London market. The average of the delivery is about thirty thousand casks annually.

The Barrow, to which this town is indebted for its origin and increase, was anciently called Berva—in Irish, Bearbha; though some suppose its present name derived from the word Barragh, or boundary river, it being for some centuries the boundary between the English pale and the Irish sept.

This river, to which Denman wished that his style of writing would be assimilated, thus,

“Though deep, yet clear—though gentle, yet not dull;
Strong without rage—without o’erflowing, full,
rises in the Slieve-Bloom mountains, in the Queen’s

county, and, passing several small towns, arrives at Carlow, to which, as before-mentioned, it contributes life prosperity, and increasing commercial importance. It then pursues its winding and placid course, until it mingles its waters with its sister river, the Nore, near New Ross. It is navigable from Ross to Athy, where it meets the canal, which continues on to Dublin: reckoning from its source, it runs in its whole course a distance of about one hundred and twenty miles.

Carlow is rapidly progressing of late years—it is extending its limits on all sides—new streets being added, one in particular, now laying out for the erection of private houses, will, if finished according to the plan at present intended, be one of its greatest ornaments. The public buildings are in number suitable to the size of the town: amongst them the new cathedral for Roman Catholic worship claims preeminence, for the beauty of its style and architecture, a new court-house, a new jail, a lunatic asylum, also a modern building, laid out on an extensive scale, for the reception of about one hundred and twenty patients, from the counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, and Kildare, the college, of which there is a view given in your 14th Number, a fine Protestant church, also one house of worship for Presbyterians, one for Methodists, and another for Quakers; a large horse-barrack, infirmary, dispensary, &c.; three public free schools, and in Graige (which might be said to be part of the town, although in a different county, being connected by Wellington-bridge,) there is a handsome Protestant church, a Roman Catholic chapel, and a public school, built by the donations of the parishioners, and conducted on the Lancasterian system. But in mentioning the modern buildings of Carlow, let us not pass unnoticed and neglected the dilapidated remains of “the days of other years.” The old castle then, “nobly picturesque of former greatness,” claims our attention, and deserves a place in your Journal among the antiquities of Ireland.—But, indeed, with the exception of this castle, this town

does not possess any thing worthy the eye of the antiquary—no monastic ruin—no monument of bye-gone times.

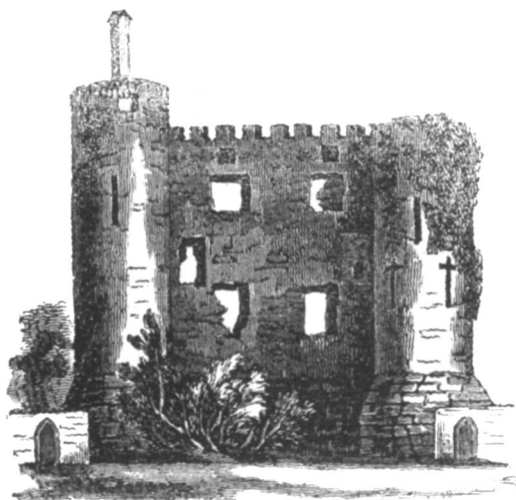
There was a fine abbey founded here in the seventh century, a trace of which no longer remains.

The population of Carlow at present is about eleven thousand persons, and contains thirty streets and lanes, and above twelve hundred houses; though in the recollection of a person, not long since deceased, the town was not more than one fourth its present extent. Carlow returned two members to the Irish parliament, and sends one now to the British legislature. There were three charters granted to Carlow—one by James the First, one by Charles the Second, and a third by James the Second.

A poem entitled Mount Leinster, &c., has the following lines relative to this town :

"Where Carlow's undulating fields extend,
Whose varied shades in sweet disorder blend;
'Mid which the raptured eye delights to stray,
And dwells, though oft reviewed, "with fond delay."
On wood, on tillage, or on pasture green,
Or seeks the Barrow through the lengthened scene:
Fair stream! whose placid waters glide
In winding course, a gentle tide;
As through thy own green vales they stray,
And flow, untired, their ceaseless way;
Still, as the parent main they join,
Drawn from thy streams new rills combine;
Thence nature's course unerring keep,
Thy source the clouds, thy home the deep!"

H.



CARLOW CASTLE.

This lofty and massive building, which rears its high head in solemn grandeur, and seems to look down with fostering protection and watchful guardianship on the town beneath it, was built by Hugh de Lacy, about the year 1180, in the reign of John. Though some difference of opinion exists on this point—some referring it as the work of Eva, daughter of Dermot M'Murrough, and others attributing it to Isabel, daughter of Strongbow, and others, to King John, &c.; but concurrent, circumstantial, and historical evidence, fix on de Lacy as the founder.* It was built after the Anglo-Norman style of architecture, i.e. a square area strongly enclosed with walls, fortified and strengthened at each corner with a round tower of large dimensions.* The whole building was amply provided with loop-holes, and with arched and mullioned windows, &c., from which to pour, if necessary, on their assailants the sweeping shot of artillery and musketry, or the less destructive missile.

The prefixed view is intended to convey a notion of its present ruinous condition—the mere isolated wreck of

* The walls of the tower are of the amazing thickness of seven feet two inches; the inner diameter of the same, ten feet, and the exterior circumference is seventy seven feet.

what it once was—which is attributable, not to the all prostrating hand of time, nor even to the generally still more destructive hand of man, although it had been exposed for centuries to the influence of the one, and to the repeated, and often long-continued attacks of the other—but to the pseudo improvement, and unskilful alterations of its then occupier, Dr. Middleton, who in 1814 effected its almost total overthrow, by disturbing and undermining its foundations. It fell with a dreadful crash, that alarmed those towns-people who were not aware of the coming event, and it fortunately happened on a Sunday morning, while the people were engaged about their religious duties, otherwise it might possibly have been the destruction of many, for it was at that time a place of general resort for purposes of pleasure and amusement.

This castle is situated on a sloping height which overlooks the town on the west side, close to Wellington-bridge, which crosses the Barrow here, and unites the county of Carlow with the Queen's county.

During a troubled period of Irish history, that is, almost from the time of its erection to the year 1650, when it felt the effect of Ireton's cannon, this castle experienced many a reverse of fortune; one time in the hands of the Irish, and the next in those of their enemies; now affording its protection to the besieged rebels, and again the English soldiers hurl, from its battlemented walls, missiles, and other implements of defence on the "Irish enemy" below; now proposed to the government to be granted, with "its lands and appurtenances," to some young adventurers from England, to induce them to carry on an exterminating warfare, an unholy crusade against the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts; and at another time given by the English possessors of the soil to some "Irish military agent, who (in the exaction of their tributes) might employ the law of the land or the sword, as circumstances would require."

And often have the walls of its lofty towers rung and re-echoed with the wild convulsive shriek, and expiring groan of its butchering inhabitants, when the "fortune of war" favoured the sanguinary besiegers of either party.—In fine, there is many a wild traditionary story connected with it, and many a tale of blood, which in a great measure clouds the "glory of its history."

The castle was once walled, and the space inclosed was very considerable: it may be inferred from part of the walls, lately found in throwing down a house, that they surrounded the castle entirely to the east, and terminated at the Barrow, that river forming its boundary to the west.

A spiral stone stairs led to the summit of one of the towers, which has fallen, from which there was gained an extended and beautifully varied prospect. Seated on this lofty eminence, the lover of nature might gratify his fondest wish; for there presented itself to him a landscape which was truly beautiful, interspersed with every variety of mountain and lowland scenery. On one side, the thickly wooded mountains of Clogreman, which in a long continued chain of hills bounded the ruin to the west, rose before him, teeming with cultivation to their very summit, swelling out of, and crowning the rich and verdant fields and vallies which lie extended at its base, with the Barrow, whose serpentine course could be traced for miles, flowing through them. Towards the east the Wicklow mountains, with the beautiful intermediate country, engage the attention; then turning towards the south, in the blue distance might be recognised the dim and weary outline of Mount Leinster.

"Lord of the landscape, lofty Leinster, hail!
From whose high crown we view the distant sail,
As on the horizon's misty verge it flies,
Where distant ocean mingles with the skies;
With thy majestic beauties varying wide,
As from the base we mount the rocky side;
On an extensive tract the eye first dwells,
Where Erne's shore the rolling surge repels."

The height of the walls yet remaining is about sixty-five feet, which seems to have been the original altitude of the structure; the length of the side from the extremity of one tower to that of the other is 105 feet, and as the building was square, or nearly so, an idea can be formed of its former great extent. The thickness of the walls of the fortification, at least if we may judge from